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sels of commerce as the Germans and French in their air-ships and the Americans in their sky-scrapers. And all are interested in turbines. The *Zeitschrift* seems to be by far the greatest source of scientific advances in technology, and the engineering journals of other nations look to it as the dean of them all.

A study of this sort would not be complete unless it took into consideration the far-reaching effect which the failure of the Quebec bridge, on August 29, 1907, had on technical literature, especially in America. In the many discussions of column formulas resulting, with special reference to the value of l/r found in most of them, we can easily see the strong inclination of the American engineer toward a plausible formula. Many discussions followed the disaster, most of them making use of l/r and suggesting modifications of the column formulas in existence. It may be questioned, in view of the results of recent tests made on built-up columns, whether the old formulas, even with modifications, will not be superseded by some entirely new rules for the design of such columns.

It may be stated, in conclusion, that the attitude of the engineers toward the efficient teaching of the principles of mathematics, as gathered from their discussions, is sane and their interest great. Naturally, they call for results and are apt to be impatient if a college graduate violates fundamental principles which should have been thoroughly mastered long before. They are aware of the difficulties encountered in the efficient teaching of mathematics and of the different viewpoints of instructors of mathematics. On the other hand, instructors of mathematics for students of engineering should maintain an attitude of sympathy with the problems of the engineer, or at least recognize and become acquainted with them. That both

engineers and mathematicians are working more and more toward a common end, and with a better understanding of the problems involved, is evidenced by the results of the many joint conferences held recently for the purpose of securing that greater efficiency, which is the watchword of the age.

ERNEST W. PONZER

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

RICHARD KLEBS

PROFESSOR DR. RICHARD KLEBS, geologist and knight of high degree, connected with the Royal Geological Survey, and scientific adviser to the Royal Amber Works, died in Königsberg, Prussia, on June 20, 1911, in his sixty-seventh year.

Dr. Klebs was well known throughout the world for many papers on the subject of amber and its industry, the inclusions and the study of the coleoptera, and plant and insect inclusions in amber masses, he himself gathering and owning the great collection which was exhibited under the auspices of the Imperial German government at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. This great collection consists of 10,000 inclusions in amber, including beetles, fleas, spiders, wood, leaves and many other interesting objects associated with the history of amber. It is valued at \$40,000 and will only be sold as an entirety.

The last paper he wrote, and of which he sent me a reprint, is entitled: "Ueber Bernsteineinschlüsse im allgemeinen und die Coleopteren meiner Bernsteinsammlung," with text illustrations, which appeared in the "Schriften der Physik-ökonom. Gesellschaft zu Königsberg i Pr." Jahrg. LI., pp. 217-242, III., 1910. Dr. Alfons Dampf, assistant in the Königl. Zoologischen Museum, Königsberg, described a fossil flea occurring in Baltic amber and named it "*Palæopsylla klebsiana*," in honor of his friend, Dr. Klebs (pp. 248-259, pl. 2, 1910-11).

Dr. Klebs possessed an earnest, cheerful personality; was an indefatigable worker, published many papers on his subject, and suc-

ceeded to a far greater extent than any one else interested in attracting notice to the great amber industry, which the German government is now paternally fostering with much satisfaction to all and with considerable financial success. He leaves a wife, a brother and grandchildren—one a son-in-law of Dr. Carl Kaiserling, of the University of Berlin.

GEORGE F. KUNZ

THE ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTS

ANNOUNCEMENT is made by Dr. H. W. Wiley, secretary of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, that the twenty-eighth annual convention of the association will be held at Washington, D. C., from November 20 to 22. The program is as follows:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

MORNING SESSION

Phosphoric Acid: H. D. Haskins, Amherst, Mass.
Determination of Nitrogen: J. W. Kellogg, Harrisburg, Pa.

Potash—

Determination: E. L. Baker, Geneva, N. Y.
Availability: H. H. Hill, Blacksburg, Va.
Soils: J. G. Lipman, New Brunswick, N. J.
Inorganic Plant Constituents: O. M. Shedd, Lexington, Ky.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Appointment of Committees

Insecticides: C. C. McDonnell, Washington, D. C.
Water: W. W. Skinner, Washington, D. C.
Committee A on Recommendations of Referees:
J. P. Street, New Haven, Conn.

Reports of Special Committees

Amendments to the Constitution: L. L. Van Slyke, Geneva, N. Y.
Appropriation: J. P. Street, New Haven, Conn.
Availability of Phosphoric Acid in Basic Slag:
W. F. Hand, Agricultural College, Miss.
Cooperation with other Agricultural Organizations: H. W. Wiley, Washington, D. C.
Food Standards: William Frear, State College, Pa.
Journal of Agricultural Research: W. A. Withers, Raleigh, N. C.
Participation in the Eighth International Congress of Applied Chemistry: J. P. Street, New Haven, Conn.

Presentation of the Question of Unification of Terms to the International Congress of Applied Chemistry: R. J. Davidson, Blacksburg, Va.

Standardization of Alcohol Tables: L. M. Tolman, Washington, D. C.

Testing of Chemical Reagents: L. F. Kebler, Washington, D. C.

Unification of Methods of Analysis of Fats and Oils: L. M. Tolman, Washington, D. C.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

MORNING SESSION

Food Adulteration: A. S. Mitchell, St. Paul, Minn.
Colors: W. E. Mathewson, New York City.
Saccharine Products: S. H. Ross, Omaha, Neb.
Fruit Products: A. W. Blair, Gainesville, Fla.
Wine: E. J. Lea, Berkeley, Cal.
Beer: W. D. McAbee, Indianapolis, Ind.
Distilled Liquors: J. O. LaBach, Lexington, Ky.
Vinegar: W. A. Bender, New York City.
Flavoring Extracts: R. S. Hiltner, Denver, Colo.
Spices: R. W. Hilts, Philadelphia, Pa.
Baking Powder: E. W. Magruder, Richmond, Va.

Meat and Fish: Ralph Hoagland, St. Anthony Park, St. Paul, Minn.

Fats and Oils: H. S. Bailey, Washington, D. C.
Dairy Products: A. E. Paul, Chicago, Ill.

Cereal Products: H. L. White, Agricultural College, N. D.

Vegetables: J. P. Street, New Haven, Conn.
Condiments other than Spices: W. J. McGee, New Orleans, La.

Cocoa and Cocoa Products: W. L. Dubois, Buffalo, N. Y.

Tea and Coffee: M. E. Jaffa, Berkeley, Cal.
Preservatives: H. E. Barnard, Indianapolis, Ind.
Water in Foods: H. C. Lythgoe, Boston, Mass.
Organic and Inorganic Phosphorus in Foods:
H. S. Grindley, Urbana, Ill.

President's Address (special order for 12 o'clock).

AFTERNOON SESSION

Separation of Nitrogenous Bodies—

Meat Proteids: C. R. Moulton, Columbia, Mo.
Milk and Cheese: A. W. Bosworth, Geneva, N. Y.

Vegetable Proteids: R. Harcourt, Guelph, Canada.

Committee C on Recommendations of Referees: A. L. Winton, Chicago, Ill.